REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the arguments set forth fully below. In the Office Action mailed August 9, 2006, claims 1, 4-10, 13, 14, 18-23, 27-32 and 35 have been rejected. In response, the Applicant has amended claims 1, 14, 23 and 32 and has submitted the following remarks. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-10, 13, 14, 18-23, 27-32 and 35 are still pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amended claims and the remarks below.

Examiner Interview

The applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's time and attention during the telephone interviews of November 8 and November 9, 2006. During the interviews, the Examiners and the undersigned discussed the rejections to claims 1, 14, 23 and 32, in light of Wong. Specifically, the undersigned argued that Wong does not teach a first application configured to generate a set of patient context data for the patient that includes patient and user information, and a second application configured to retrieve a set of patient textual data from a radiology information system (RIS). Wong further does not teach a workstation configured to operate both the first and second application, wherein the first application sends the set of patient context data to the second application and the second application receives the set of patient context data and displays the set of patient textual data based on the set of patient context data. Furthermore, the Examiner and the undersigned discussed possible claim amendments for the independent claims. The amendments made above are made pursuant to the Examiner's comments and suggestions.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Within the Office Action, claims 1, 4-10, 13-14, 18-23, 27-32 and 35 been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,260,021 to Wong, et al (hereinafter Wong). The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection.

As was discussed with the Examiner in the Examiner Interviews of November 8 and November 9, 2006, the Wong reference does not teach a first application configured to retrieve patient image data from a PACS system and a second application configured receive patient textual data from a RIS system, wherein a workstation coupled to the display unit is configured to operate both the first and second applications, and the first application is configured to generate and send a set of patient context data to the second application, and the second application receives the set of patient context data and displays the set of patient textual data on a display unit based on the set of patient context data. The independent claim 1 includes elements reflecting these teachings.

The Applicant wishes to respectfully focus on the point that Wong does not teach **generating a set of patient context data with the first (PACS) application** nor **sending this context data to the second (RIS) application**. Wong references sending a request from the Medical Image Server 12 to each of the PACS and RIS. Applicant concedes that while Wong teaches that the PACS and RIS are "in data communication," Wong does not teach a PACS **generating** a set of patient context data and sending that context data to the RIS such that a request to the RIS from the user is not necessary to obtain patient information from both the PACS and the RIS.

The independent claim 1 is directed to a patient data information system, comprising, among other elements, a workstation coupled to a display unit and configured to operate both a first application (PACS) and a second application (RIS) that reside on the workstation, the PACS configured to generate and send a set of patient context data to the RIS, and the RIS configured to receive the set of patient textual data on the display unit. As discussed above, Wong does not teach generating and sending a set of patient

context data from a PACS to a RIS, and the RIS responding according to that data. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Wong and in condition for allowance.

Claims 4-10 and 13 are dependent upon the independent claim 1. As discussed above, the independent claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Wong. For at least these reasons, claims 4-10 and 13 are allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the amended independent claims 14, 23 and 32 are allowable for the same reasons as discussed above regard the amended independent claim 1.

Claims 18-22, 27-31 and 35 are dependent upon the independent claims 14, 23 and 32. As discussed above, the independent claims 14, 23 and 32 are allowable over the teachings of Wong. For at least these reasons, claims 18-22, 27-31 and 35 are allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Within the Office Action, claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wong in view of Applicant's admitted prior art. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this rejection. Claim 4 is dependent upon the independent claim 1. As discussed above, the independent claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Wong. Accordingly, claim 4 is also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.
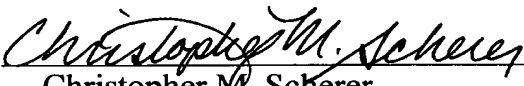
For these reasons Applicant respectfully submits that all the claims are now in condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at

414-271-7590 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously

resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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